Think back...

- Think back to an adult that supported you in the past (mentor, coach, teacher, etc.)
 - How did they support you?
 - How did they encourage you without imposing their own ideas?
 - How did they respond when you succeeded? Failed?

Roger Hart's Ladder of Young People's Participation

Rung 8: Young people & adults share decision-making Created by The Freechild Project - http://freechild.org Rung 7:Young people lead & initiate action Rung 6: Adult-initiated, shared decisions with young people Rung 5: Young people consulted and informed Rung 4: Young people assigned and informed Rung 3: Young people tokenized* Rung 2: Young people are decoration* Rung 1: Young people are manipulated* Note: Hart explains that the last three rungs are non-participation

Adapted from Hart, R. (1992). Children's Participation from Tokenism to Citizenship.

Florence: UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre.

Freedom Continuum







Not enough freedom (Lack of interest)

Meaningful choices within supportive structure

Too much freedom (Frustration)

Youth Voice at Multiple Levels

Individual
Adults
and Youth

Within a program session

Throughout an organization

Combating Adultism

Choice and Leadership Opportunities

Teen Advisory
Council